



2001 Wetlands Reserve Program

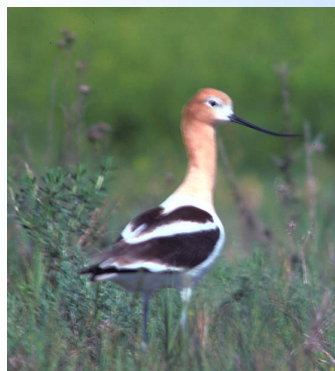
Customer Focus

Jeff Dyer successfully restored 34 acres of seasonal marsh through a 30-year WRP easement. The land, located east of Zamora, California, had previously been used to grow rice and tomatoes, but the heavy alkaline clay soil created poor farming conditions.

NRCS assisted Dyer with the excavation work and installation of a water supply system. Dyer, in turn, maintains a variety of wetland plants and perennial vegetation that reduce soil erosion and sedimentation, improve water quality, and provide habitat for wildlife.

Today the ponds are filled with ducks, geese, egrets, and other waterfowl. The fields are alive with game birds, deer, coyotes, rabbits, muskrats, raccoons and many other animals.

Next, Dyer is planning to put in some hedgerows around his sediment basin and maybe some trees to attract even more wildlife.



California Summary

Overview

The Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP) recently celebrated its 10-year anniversary in California with the addition of nearly 8,000 acres of wetland easements. This brings the total acreage enrollment to more than 62,000 with over 80 percent of those being in the form of permanent easements.

The WRP is a voluntary program that provides technical and financial assistance to eligible landowners to restore, enhance, and protect wetlands. Landowners have the option of enrolling eligible lands through permanent easements, 30-year easements, and restoration cost-share agreements. WRP emphasizes the restoration of wetland habitat, including habitat for waterfowl, shorebirds, migratory songbirds, raptors such as Swainson's Hawks and many other rare, threatened and endangered species that are dependent on wetlands.

Accomplishments

During Federal fiscal year 2001, NRCS assisted 26 landowners with the acquisition of 7,845 acres of restorable wetland habitat, bringing the total enrollment in the State to more than 62,000 acres. Since the inception of the program in 1992, more than 160 landowners have voluntarily used WRP to restore marginal agricultural land back to critical wetland habitat, helping to reclaim some of the 4.5 million acres of wetlands estimated to have been lost in California. With approximately 90 percent of the enrollments being in the form of permanent and 30-year conservation easements, WRP has provided long-term habitat benefits for millions of migratory birds.

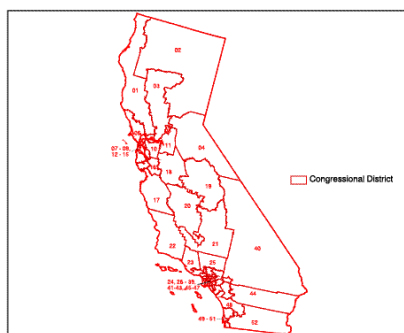
Outlook

WRP has over 90 applications waiting to be funded, with more being submitted each day. As applications are received, NRCS field staff arrange to have properties ranked based on the environmental objectives of the program and a cost benefit analysis. Restoration work is currently being performed on 30 projects.

State Contacts

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California Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP)



California WRP Acres

Fiscal Year 2001
\$11,700,000

Cumulative Total (97-01)
\$64,496,775

Congressional

Districts Cumulative Acres under easement or restoration agreement

District 1	88
District 2	9807
District 3	18255
District 4	954
District 5	
District 6	183
District 7	
District 8	
District 9	
District 10	493
District 11	8633
District 12	
District 13	
District 14	
District 15	18
District 16	
District 17	
District 18	7133
District 19	5611
District 20	
District 21	3103
District 22	175
District 23	
District 24	
District 25	
District 26	
District 27	
District 28	
District 29	
District 30	
District 31	
District 32	
District 33	
District 34	
District 35	
District 36	
District 37	
District 38	
District 39	
District 40	
District 41	
District 42	6964
District 43	
District 44	
District 45	
District 46	
District 47	
District 48	
District 49	
District 50	
District 51	10
District 52	

State Totals

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